

Situation Update #114- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 13 - 19 June 2022 (EPI Week 24)

HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 19 June 2022 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 20 June 2022)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 98.8% (967,300) of cases have recovered, 0.01% (110) are active cases and 1.2% (11,952) are deaths.
- Among the total active cases, 98.1% (108) cases are in home isolation; 1.9% (2) of cases are undergoing hospital/institutional isolation. None of the active cases require ICU admission or ventilator support.
- None of the districts reported more than 500 active cases.
- Among the new RT-PCR confirmed cases (100) reported this week, 56% (56) are from Kathmandu district followed by Kailali district 12% (12). Majority of the new cases 68% (68) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur), Bagmati Province.
- **COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 13 Jun 2022)**

SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 19 Jun 2022)

NEPAL

Cumulative confirmed cases

RT-PCR: 979,362

Antigen RDT: 140,377

Cumulative deaths: 11,952

Cumulative tests

RT-PCR: 5,741,101

Antigen RDT: 1,216,302

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

Cumulative cases (%)

58,339,959 (11%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

789,500 (12%)

GLOBAL

Cumulative cases (%)

536,838,970 (100%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

6,317,653 (100%)

Covi-AstraZeneca		Vero Cell		Janssen		Pfizer		Moderna	
First dose	5,324,372	First dose	10,315,418	Single dose	3,433,810	First dose	340,378	First dose	3,173,625
Second dose	4,531,627	Second dose	9,171,309			Second dose	263,240	Second dose	2,723,237

NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- Since 9 May 2021, all 7 provinces in the country are experiencing community transmission.
- Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, 78.0% (764,355/979,362) of RT-PCR confirmed cases were reported from three provinces, namely- Province 1, Bagmati Province and Lumbini Province. The Kathmandu valley area (Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur) in Bagmati Province has substantially high case load with 43.7% of national total (428,119/979,362), and 81.2% of the provincial total (428,119/527,350).
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate in Epi Week 24 ranged from 0.0% (Madhesh and Lumbini province) to 6.7% (Sudurpashchim province), with a national positivity rate at 0.8%. Karnali province did not report any RT-PCR test performed in the last week.
- Nepal reported a 59% increase in the number of new RT-PCR confirmed cases (n=100) in Epi week 24 compared to that in the previous week. Of these total cases reported last week, 82% of the cases have been reported from Province 1, Bagmati, and Lumbini province.
- Nepal did not report any death in Epi week 24 same as that in the previous week.

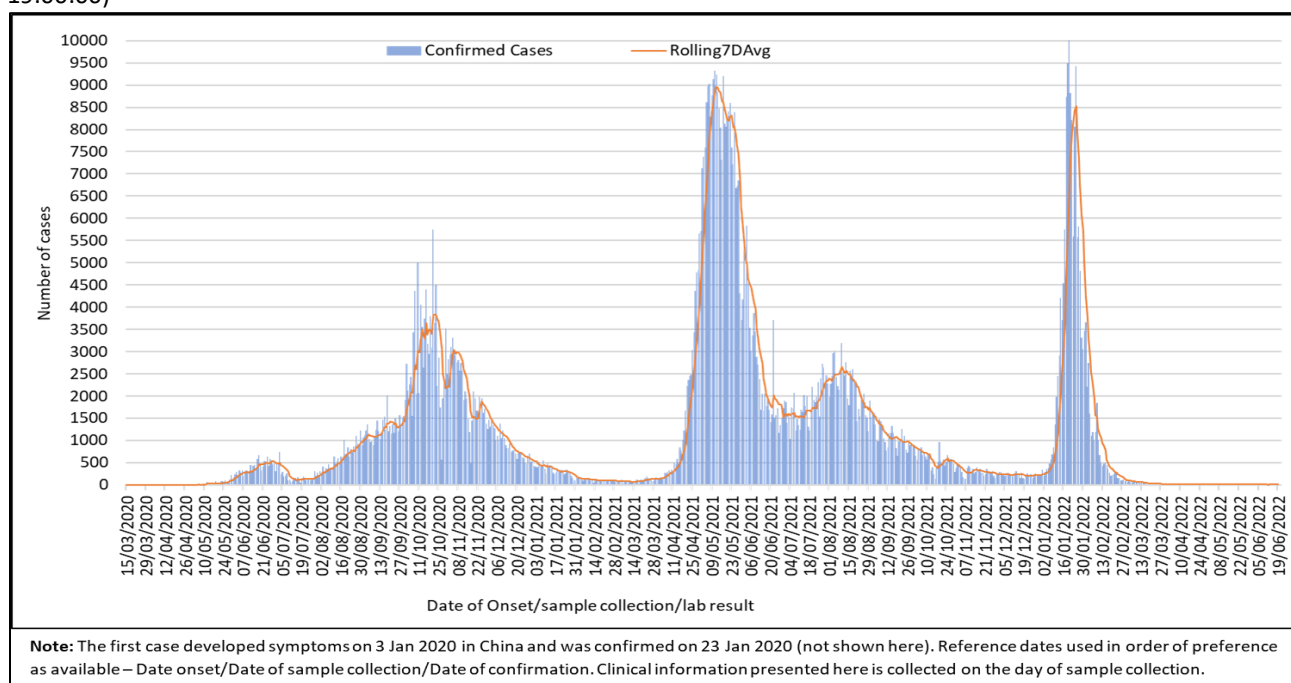
National Influenza Surveillance

- The WHO laboratory capacity pillar provided technical support to NPHL and visited Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL)- Sudurpashchim province for the 'Implementation meeting of Integrated Influenza SARS CoV-2 Sentinel Surveillance in Nepal' on 15-16 June 2022. The Health Secretary, Ministry of Health, Population and Family Welfare chaired the meeting and representatives from Provincial Health Directorate, PPHL-Lumbini Province, Lumbini Provincial Hospital attended the meeting.
- NIC-NPHL reported 11 diagnostic Influenza samples on Epi-week 24 (13 -19 June 2022). One sample tested positive for Influenza A (H1N1pdm09). All samples tested negative for SARS-CoV-2.
- Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on Epi-week 24, 52 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples were tested for Influenza. None of the samples tested positive for Influenza A and B.
- PPHL from Province 1, Madhesh Province, Gandaki Province and Lumbini Province have started testing for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using Multiplex kit. A total of 64 samples have been tested by the PPHLs. One sample tested positive for Influenza A. The subtyping is yet to be done.
- From 3 January 2022 until 19 June 2022:
 - A total of 8 samples tested positive for Influenza (2 Influenza B Positive and 3 Influenza A/H3, 2 Influenza A(H1N1pdm09), 1 Influenza A Positive) from 2,670 samples (sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 Negative SARI and ILI cases).
 - Similarly, 207 samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 741 Influenza negative samples (Sentinel/non-sentinel ILI/SARI samples).¹

WHO SEAR countries: Number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and cumulative incidence rate (per 100,000). Link Here- <https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/covid/>

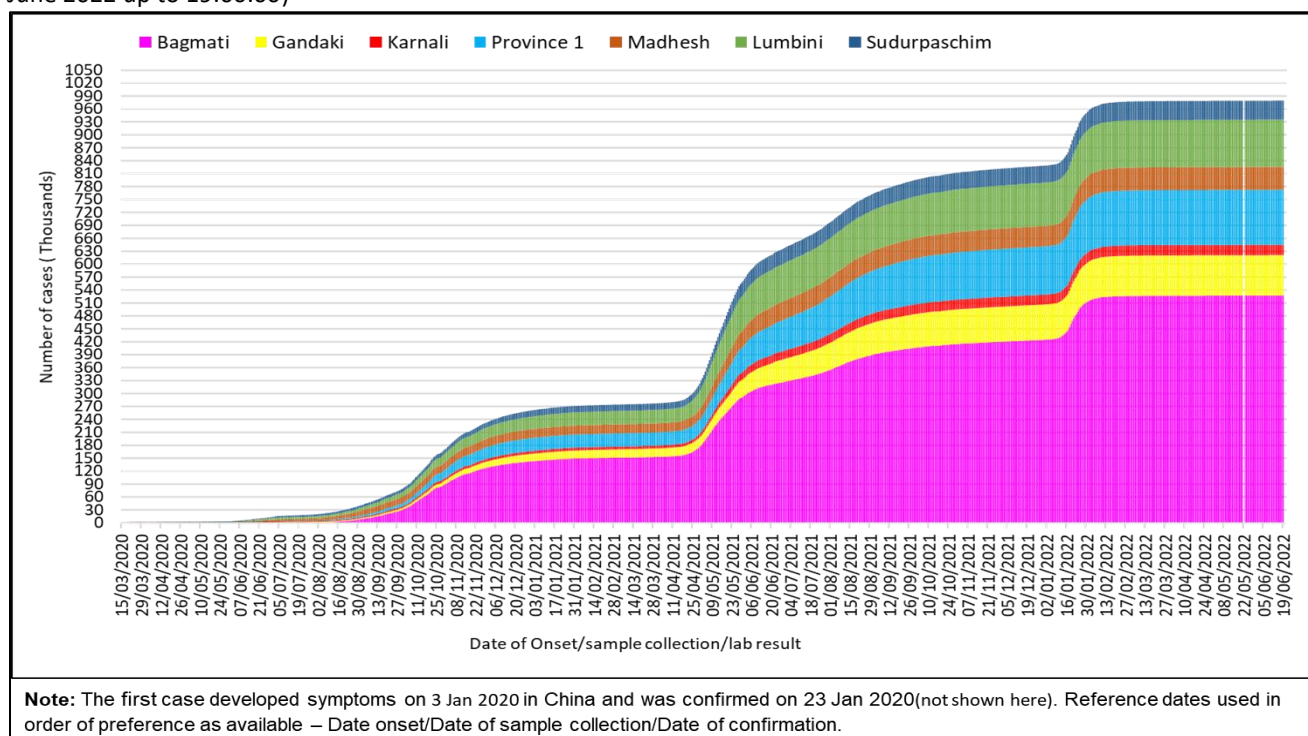
¹ These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database

Figure 1: RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases and average number of COVID-19 cases over the last seven days, by date of onset/sample/confirmation (N= 979,362) (Data reported on 19 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



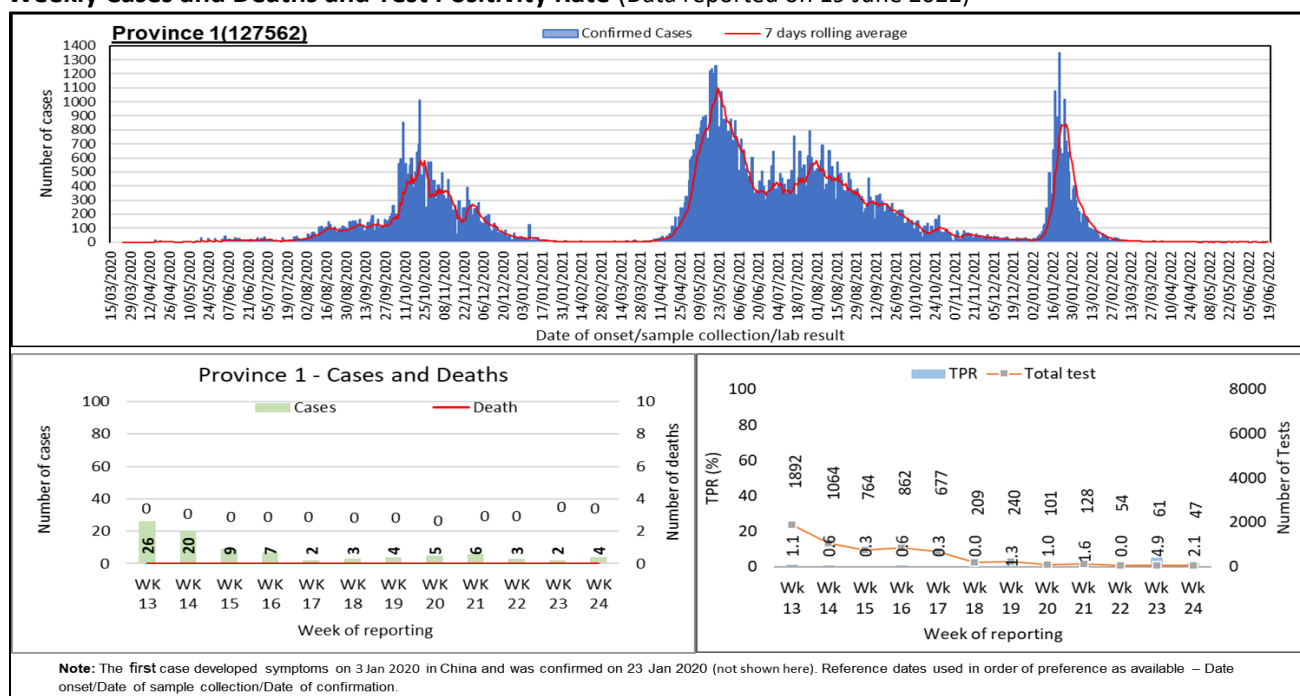
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. Since the middle of December 2021, a third wave of cases soared up exceeding the highest number of single day cases reported in the past surges towards the end of January 2022, however the trend has been continuously decreasing since then.

Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 979,362) (Data reported on 19 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



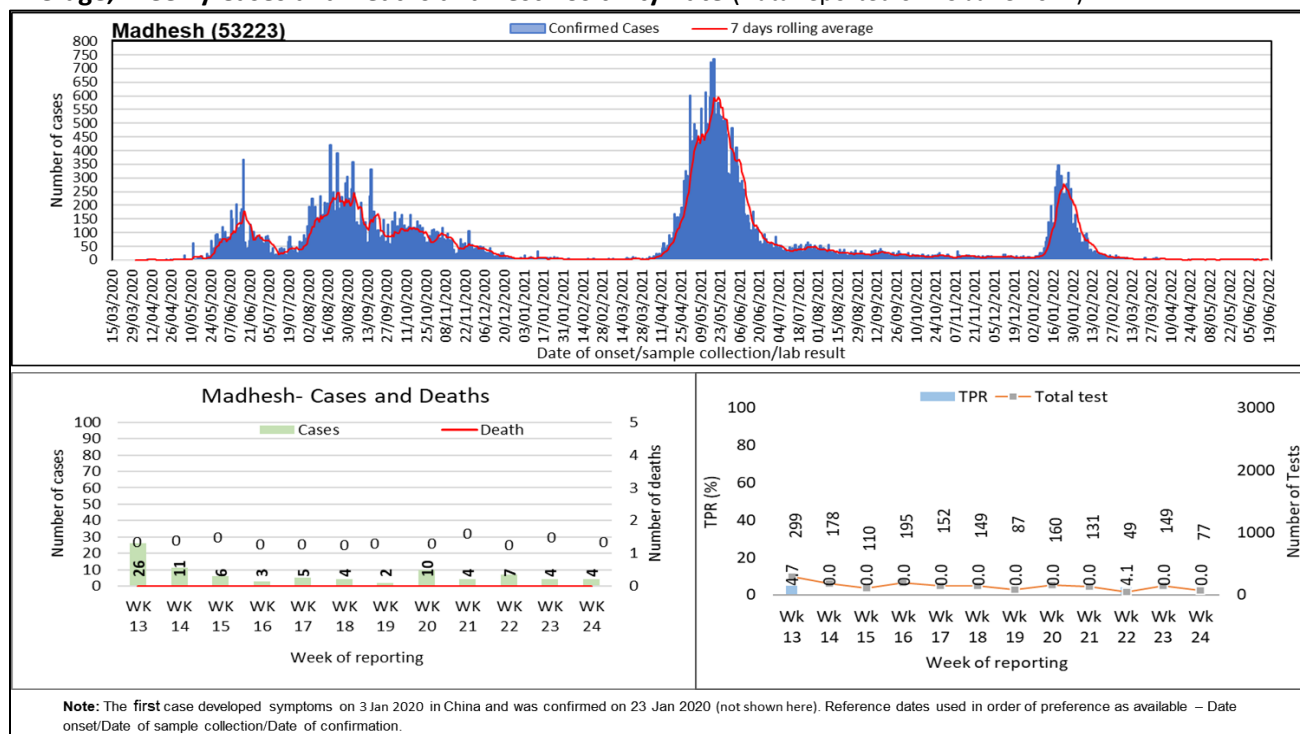
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

Figure 3A1: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Province 1: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



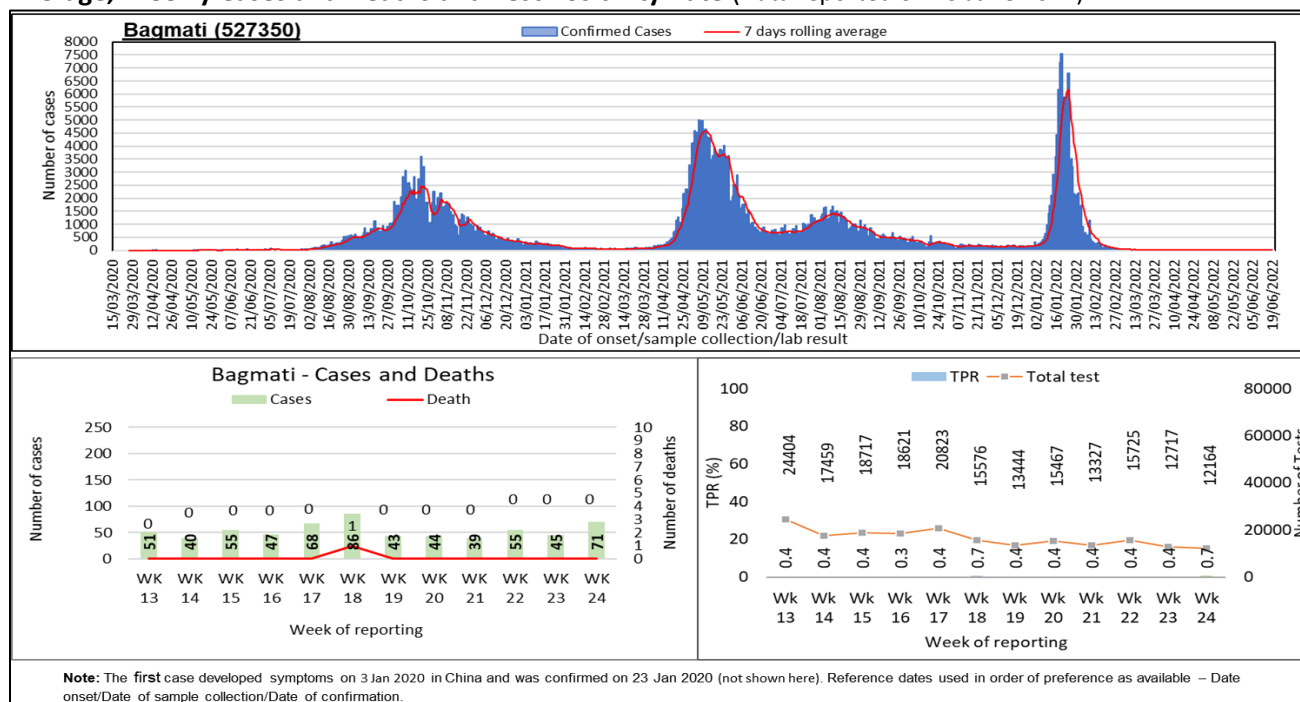
There were 4 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 100% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 decreased to 2.1% in the past week. A total of 47 tests were performed in the past week, 23% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A2: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Madhesh Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



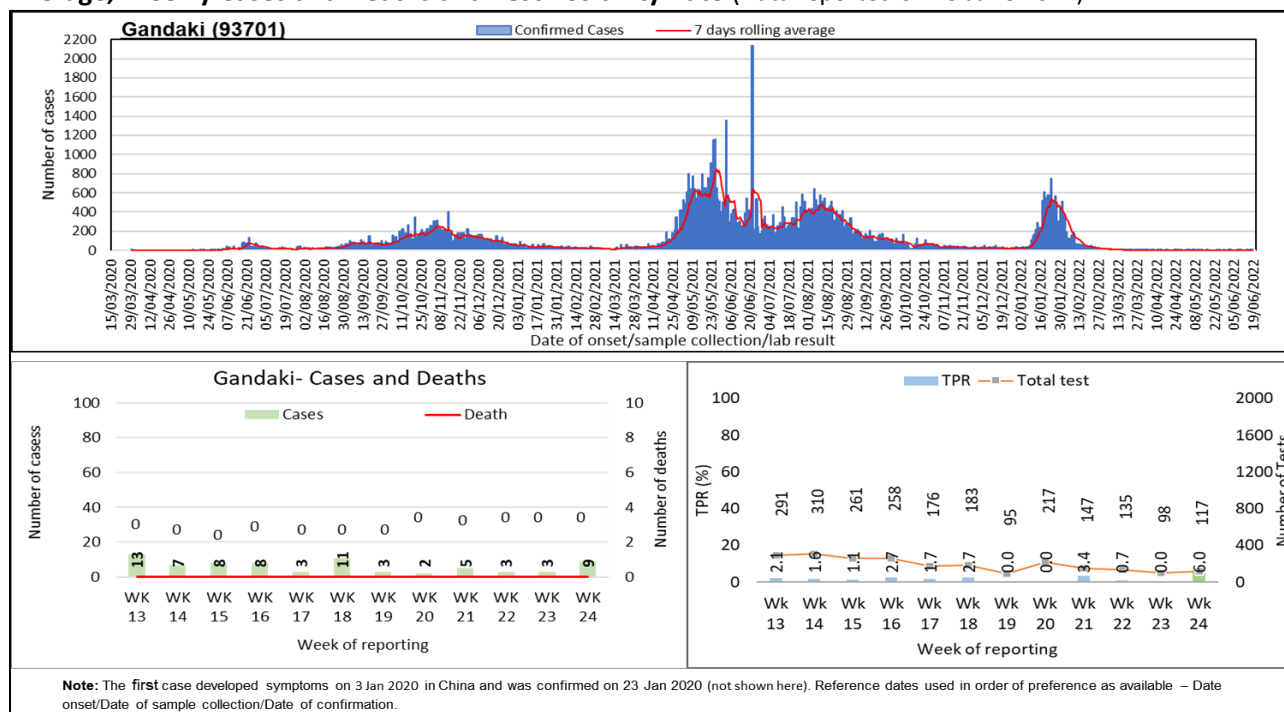
There were 4 new cases reported in the past week in Madhesh province. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have remained stable in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Madhesh remained stable at 0.0% in the past week. A total of 77 tests were performed in the past week, 48% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A3: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Bagmati Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



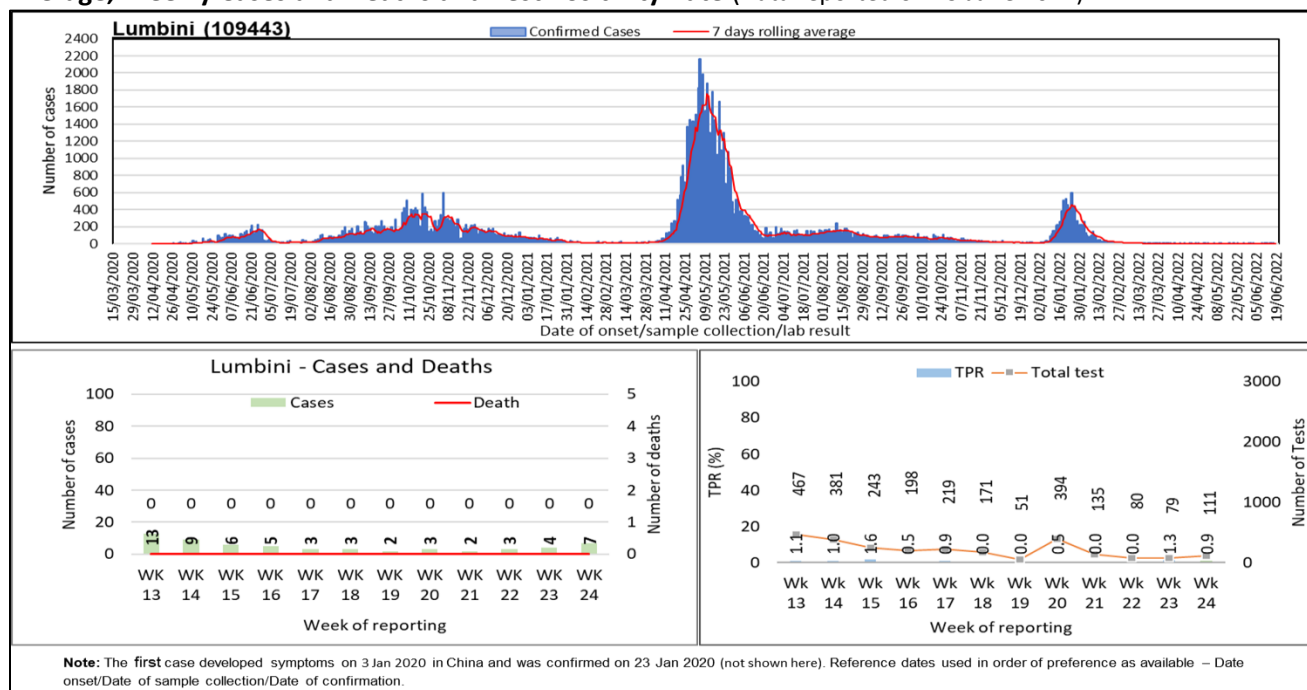
In Bagmati, 71 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 58% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, compared to 1 death in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati increased to 0.7% in the past week. A total of 12,164 tests were performed in the past week, 4% less than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A4: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Gandaki Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



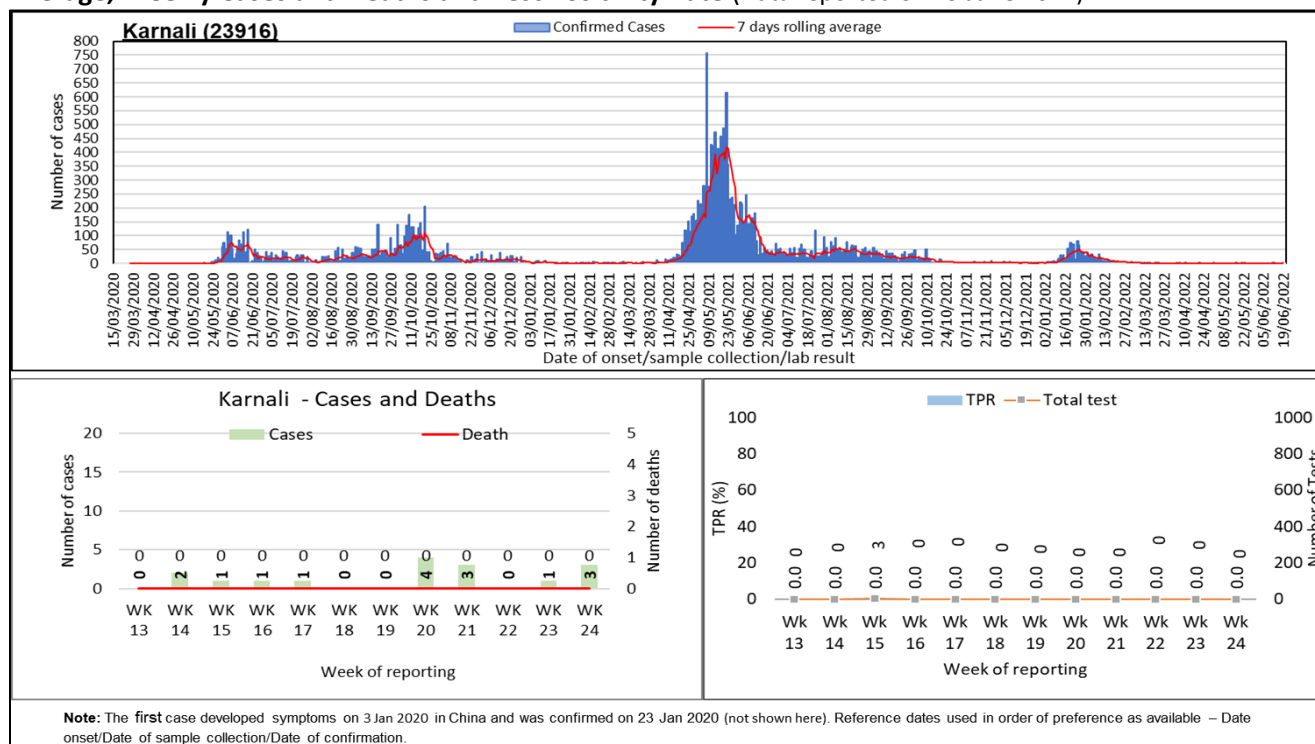
In Gandaki, 9 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 4, cases are in a decreasing trend. However, cases have increased by 200% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki increased to 6.0% in the past week. A total of 117 tests were performed in the past week, 19% more than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A5: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Lumbini Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



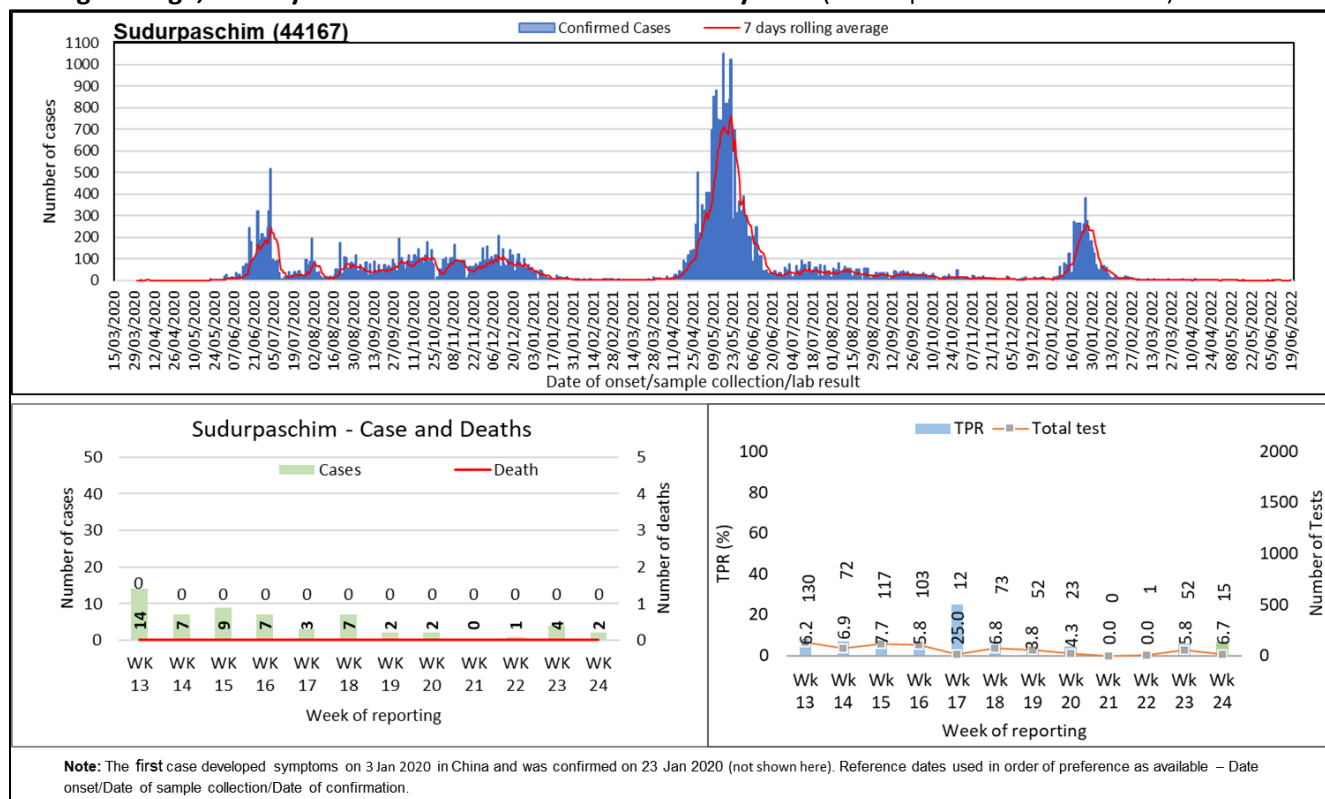
Lumbini reported 7 new cases in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 75% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini remained stable at 0.0% in the past week. A total of 111 tests were performed in the past week, 41% more than that in the previous week.

Figure 3A6: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Karnali Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



In Karnali, 3 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 200% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Karnali remained stable at 0.0% in the past week with no test performed reported in the past week.

Figure 3A7: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Sudurpashchim Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)



In Sudurpaschim, 2 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 4, cases are in a decreasing trend. Cases have decreased by 50% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpaschim increased to 6.7% in the past week. A total of 15 tests were performed reported in the past week, 71% less than that in the previous week.

Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces (Data reported on 19 June 2022 up to 19:00:00))

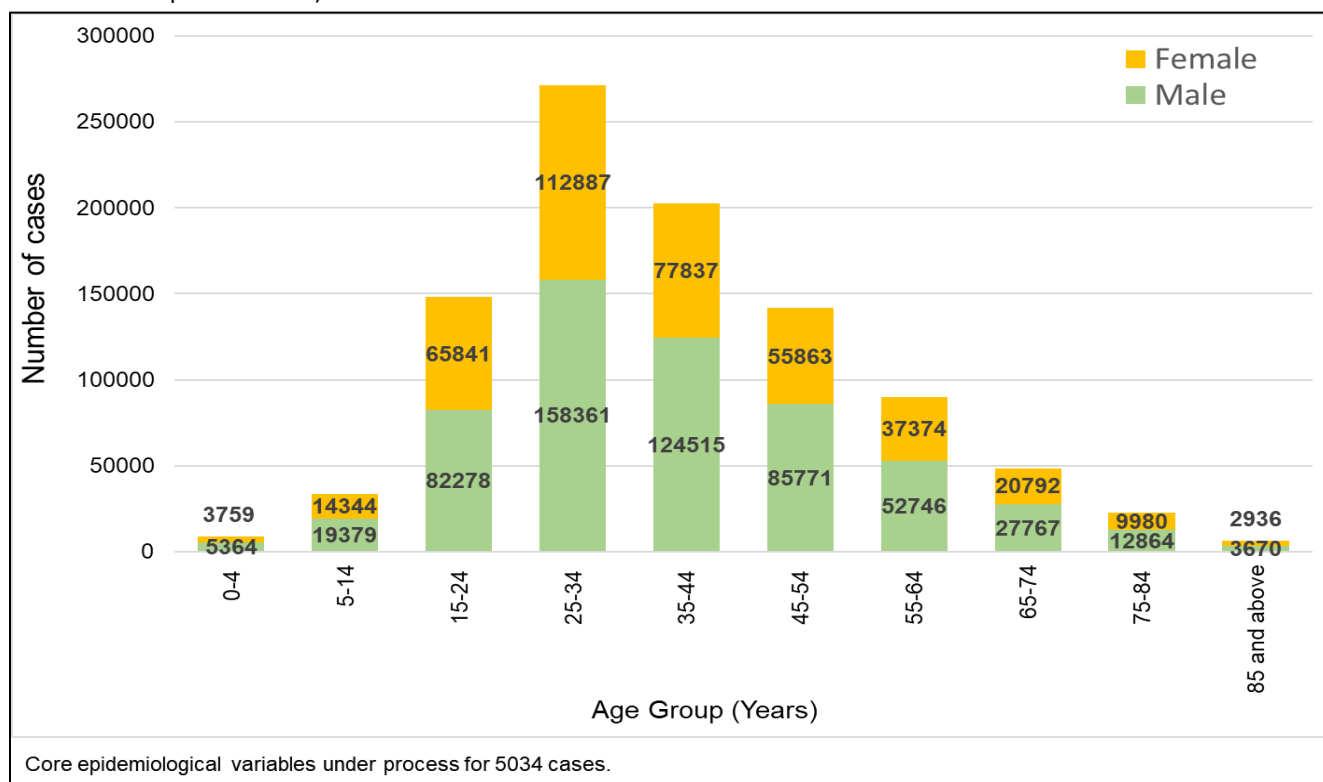
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days RT-PCR test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days	% of total confirmed cumulative cases in last 14 days	Total Deaths in last 14 days
Province 1	127562	29611	157173	14.3	1715	Community transmission	0	6	6	3.4	0
Madhesh	53223	1154	54377	4.9	783	Community transmission	0	8	8	4.5	0
Bagmati	527350	29944	557294	50.7	5164	Community transmission	5	116	121	68.0	0
Gandaki	93701	22872	116573	10.6	1419	Community transmission	3	12	15	8.4	0
Lumbini	109443	25548	134991	12.3	1864	Community transmission	6	11	17	9.6	0
Karnali	23916	5902	29818	2.7	491	Community transmission	1	4	5	2.8	0
Sudurpashchim	44167	5425	49592	4.5	516	Community transmission	0	6	6	3.4	0
National Total	979362	120456*	1099818	100	11952	Community transmission	15	163	178	100	0

Total reported in Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) Sitrep as of 19 June 2022, **140377 but IMU reported **120456***

Notes:

1. The source for case data used in this update is from RT-PCR test positivity reported by laboratories from various locations across Nepal, as shared by HEOC Sitrep; and IMU/IHIMS.
2. Case data is screened and cleaned by our data team for double entry, wrong entry and manual errors such as cities name in place of districts, district name in place of province etc.
3. Whereas the test positivity rate is calculated based on the test positivity reported in Sitrep for RT-PCR which may or may not be scrutinized or cleaned the same way and mark the cases on location of the laboratories rather than their place of residence.

Figure 4: Distribution of RT-PCR positive COVID-19 cases by age and sex (N= 974,328) (Data reported on 19 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



Overall, the sex-distribution remains skewed towards males. The incidence of cases is higher in the economically productive age group (15-54 years) for both males and females.

Table 2: Age Specific Case Fatality Ratio and Co-morbidity of Deaths in RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 979,362) (Data reported on 19 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)

Age Group (Years)	Total confirmed cases	Death (male)	Death (female)	Deaths with any known comorbid condition	Age specific case fatality ratio (%)
0-4	9123	16	23	13	0.43
5-14	33723	13	7	10	0.06
15-24	148119	91	96	69	0.13
25-34	271248	386	264	149	0.24
35-44	202352	875	450	279	0.65
45-54	141634	1385	644	565	1.43
55-64	90120	1682	796	769	2.75
65-74	48559	1631	885	940	5.18
75-84	22844	1221	654	762	8.21
85+	6606	519	288	274	12.22
Unknown	5034	19	7	11	0.52
National	979362	7838	4114	3841	1.22

$$\text{Case Fatality ratio (CFR, in\%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of confirmed cases of disease}} \times 100$$

COVID-19 positive lab result is temporally associated with death; causal association under investigation.

A total of 11,952 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,838 (65.6%) were male and 4,114 (34.4%) were female. Amongst the deaths, 3,841 persons (32.1%) had at least one known comorbidity. The age specific case fatality ratio (CFR) progressively increases with age, ranging from 0.06% to 12.22%.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

What are the Government of Nepal (GoN) & the Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP) doing?

- COVID-19 vaccination campaign is going simultaneously in all provinces of the country.

What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?

Laboratory Diagnosis

- A total of 5,741,101 RT-PCR tests were performed nationwide by 106 designated COVID-19 labs functional across the nation (as of 19 June 2022).
- WHO Nepal has been providing technical support to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in following activities:
 - Monitoring the quality standard of designated COVID-19 laboratories in the country through the National Quality Assurance Program (NQAP). A total of 6 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in the NQAP this week. The result of all participating laboratories was 100% concordant.
 - Performing genome sequencing of 63 SARS-CoV-2 samples.
 - Analyzing the result of genome sequencing data and uploading in GISAID (Global Initiative on sharing All Influenza Data) platform.
 - Standardization of PCR reagents for Varicella zoster diagnosis.

Epidemiology and Surveillance

- The Epidemiology and Health Information pillars jointly conducted a four-day basic data analysis training for Field Medical Officers (FMOs), Information Management Assistants (IMAs) and COVID Surveillance Assistants (CSAs), intending to improve data collection processes, compilation, and analysis approach. The program will be replicated for government counterparts with the concurrence of MoHP.



Group photo session on the final day of the Training on Basics of Data Analysis, 17 June 2022.

Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/SK Singh

Technical Expertise and Training

- Continued routine work from the team of Technical Expertise and Training²
- WHO Nepal provided technical and financial support for conducting the 2nd batch of a three-day program 'ToT of Ambulance drivers training' held from 15-17 June 2022 organized by National Health Training Center (NHTC). There were total of 16 participants which included medical doctor, health assistants and staff nurse from across the 7 provinces. A total of 32 participants have been trained till date who will be conducting similar trainings in their respective provinces to ambulance drivers under the leadership of Provincial Ambulance Management Committee.



*Certificates received by participants after successful completion of 3-Day ToT on ambulance driver training.
Photo Credit: WHO Nepal*

Operational Support and Logistics

- Continued routine work from the team of Operation Support and Logistics³.
- WHO Nepal provided event management and logistics support for 'National conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital Network' on 12 and 13 June 2022 at Kathmandu organized Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP).

² The routine works of the technical expertise and training team included technical support to the Ministry of Health and Population and its department for developing different guidelines/manuals, conducting health programs and conducting capacity building activities. In order to perform these activities, the team coordinates and discuss with relevant government authorities and partners for effective planning and conducting the various activities.

³ The routine works of the operation support and logistics team included technical support to the Management Division of the Department of Health Services for the forecasting, quantification, procurement, and distribution plan of COVID-19 commodities. The other routine activities included daily operational support to the WHO country office and seven provincial health emergency operation centers, including fleet and travel management and the procurement of required logistics and supplies.

- WHO Nepal also provided following support to Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) for Simulation Program held on 15 June 2022:
 - Handed over 10 sets of trauma backpack to the health desk of Tribhuvan International Airport on 11 June 2022.
 - Facilitated logistics support on 15 June 2022.



Tribhuvan International Airport Simulation activity held on 15 June 2022.
 Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/P Dahal

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Episode 72 of *Science in 5 (Genome Sequencing)* was translated, dubbed, and published via the following links:
 Nepali: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#)
 Maithili: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#)
- Episode 31 of *Science in 5* podcast in Nepali language was released on Soundcloud (link [here](#)). The topic of the episode was genome sequencing. The news was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)). The teaser was also shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)).
- Participated in a meeting called by NHEICC to finalize TVC and radio PSA script for COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5 and above. These have now been broadcast.
- The news of the event - The National Conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital Network - organized by the Ministry of Health and Population, with support from WHO, Country Office for Nepal, and USAID, was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#)). A press release was also shared with members of the Nepali media.
- On the occasion of *World Blood Donor Day*, relevant IEC materials were shared highlighting the importance of voluntary, unpaid blood donation during the COVID-19 pandemic, and thanking blood donors.
- On the occasion of *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day*, relevant IEC materials were shared highlighting the various types of abuse faced by the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Supported Health Coordination Division, for the weekly National briefing. The key messages included in the MoHP briefing on 15 June 2022 are: COVID-19 cases and vaccination update, message on significance of adhering to public health and social measures and rolling out of pediatric the vaccination against COVID-19 among the children of age of 5 to 11 years, updates on the "National Conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital".
- Provided support to MoHP in drafting press release about a suspected case of monkey pox which was later identified to be leprosy.

- The following documents were uploaded on *ReliefWeb* (link [here](#)):
 - *Weekly COVID-19 EPI Dashboard*, and
 - The latest *Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update*.
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
 - Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 vaccine composition statement,
 - Interim statement on the decision-making process for the eventual use of COVID-19 vaccines updated for variants,
 - Noncommunicable Diseases and COVID-19,
 - COVID-19 preventive measures during natural disasters,
 - Dengue and COVID-19.

What are the health clusters partners doing?

- Continued routine work from the team of Partner Coordination and Donor Relation⁴
- UNICEF and WHO are providing overall support for COVID-19 vaccination campaign in close coordination with health partners and donors.
- All members of the Health Cluster are supporting the COVID-19 vaccination campaign of Nepal.
- Health partners are continuing their technical, operational, and logistics support for COVID-19 responses to health-related offices and institutions throughout the country.
- A two-day program 'National Conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital Network, 2022' at Kathmandu was organized by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) from 12-13 June 2022 (*pictures below*). The program was supported by World Health Organization Nepal with funding support from USAID. Link [Here](#)



Remarks shared by Dr. Allison Gocotano, Team Leader (WHO Health Emergencies) during the National conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital Network on 13 June 2022.

Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/C Sherpa

⁴ The routine works include coordinating with all the divisions, units, centers of Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and Department of Health Services (DoHS), and the health partners for effective conduction of Health Cluster Coordination meeting. Furthermore, the works included the documentation and distribution of meeting minutes, health partner's support updates in the 3Ws (Who, What, Where) and thematic mapping, updates of WHO's support in the UNRCO 3W sheet, participate in multi-sectoral and emergency and disaster preparedness and response platforms and activities and the humanitarian country team operational meetings. Moreover, necessary support for effective coordination of Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) with different stakeholders is provided.

WHO's STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE- [link here](#) RECOMMENDATION AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

- [Protect yourself](#)
- [Questions and answers](#)
- [Travel advice](#)
- [EPI-WIN](#): tailored information for individuals, organizations and communities

USEFUL LINKS

- MoHP COVID-19 official portal is available [here](#).
- Nepal COVID-19 regular updates and resources are available [here](#)
- For COVID-19 updates from the WHO South-East Asia Region Office, please visit [here](#).
- For information about coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic from WHO, please visit [here](#)
- Please visit this [site](#) for all technical guidance from WHO.
- Online courses on COVID-19 from WHO can be found [here](#)
- WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found [here](#)
- Visit the WHO Nepal [Facebook page](#) and webpage on COVID-19 [here](#)

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